

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical system for use in an optical pickup comprising:
a lens element for focusing incident luminous flux at a predetermined position, said lens element having, from a long conjugate distance side, a first surface convex to the long conjugate distance side and a second aspherical surface convex to a side opposite to the long conjugate distance side,
wherein the luminous flux passing through a peripheral part of said first surface is reflected at a peripheral part of said second surface, is again reflected at a central part of said first surface and imaged on an optical axis of the lens element.
2. (Previously Presented) An optical system as claimed in claim 1,
wherein said first surface and said second surface are both aspherical.
3. [Canceled]
4. [Canceled]
5. [Canceled]
6. [Canceled]

7. [Canceled]

8. [Canceled]

9. (Currently Amended) An optical system for use in an optical pickup comprising:

a lens element for focusing incident luminous flux at a predetermined position, said lens element having, from a long conjugate distance side, a first surface concave to the long conjugate distance side and a second aspherical surface convex to a side opposite to the long conjugate distance side,

wherein the luminous flux passing through a peripheral part of said first surface is reflected at a peripheral part of said second surface, is again reflected at a central part of said first surface and imaged on an optical axis of the lens element.

10. (Previously Presented) An optical system as claimed in claim 9,

wherein said first surface and said second surface are both aspherical.

11. [Canceled]

12. [Canceled]

13. (Currently Amended) An optical system comprising a lens element having a first convex surface on the long conjugate distance side thereof with a first reflective coating on a central portion thereof and a light admitting area on said first convex surface at

the periphery of said first reflective coating, and a second aspherical convex surface on the opposite side thereof with a second reflective coating on a peripheral portion and a light transmissive region at the central portion thereof, wherein incident luminous flux passing through the light admitting area of said first convex surface is totally reflected on the second reflective coating, is again totally reflected on the first reflective coating and is imaged in the vicinity of the vertex of the second aspherical convex surface.

14. (Previously Presented) The optical system of claim 13 wherein [at least one] both of said first and second surfaces [has] have an aspherical shape.

15. [Canceled]

16. [Canceled]

17. [Canceled]

18. [Canceled]

19. [Canceled]

20. [Canceled]

21. (Previously Presented) The optical system of claim 25 wherein at least one of said surfaces has an aspherical shape.

22. (Previously Presented) The optical system of claim 21 wherein said first surface has an aspherical shape.

23. (Previously Presented) The optical system of claim 21 wherein said second surface has an aspherical shape.

24. (Previously Presented) The optical system of claim 13 wherein said lens element is made of molded glass.

25. (Currently Amended) An optical system for use in an optical pickup comprising a lens element having a first concave surface on the long conjugate distance side thereof with a first reflective coating on a central portion thereof and a light admitting area on said first concave surface at the periphery of said reflective coating, and a second convex surface on the opposite side thereof with a second reflective coating on a peripheral portion thereof and a light transmissive region at the central portion thereof, wherein incident luminous flux passing through the light admitting area of said first concave surface is totally reflected on the second reflective coating, is again totally reflected on the first reflective coating and is imaged in the vicinity of the vertex of the second convex surface.

26. (Previously Presented) The optical system of claim 25 wherein said lens element is made of molded glass.

27. Canceled

28. (Currently Amended) An optical system comprising,

a lens element for focusing incident luminous flux at a predetermined position, said lens element having, from a long conjugate distance side, a first surface concave to the long conjugate distance side and a second surface convex to a side opposite to the long conjugate distance side,

wherein the luminous flux passing through a peripheral part of said first surface is reflected once at a peripheral part of said second surface, is thereafter reflected a second time at a central part of said first surface and imaged on an optical axis of the lens element upon being reflected said second reflection time.

29. (New) An optical system for use in an optical pickup, comprising:

a lens element having, from a long conjugate distance side:

a plane surface with a first reflective coating on a central portion thereof and a light admitting area at the periphery of the first reflective coating, and

a surface convex to a side opposite to the long conjugate distance side with a second reflective coating on a peripheral portion thereof and a light transmissive region at the central portion thereof,

wherein incident luminous flux passing through the light admitting area of said plane surface is reflected on the second reflective coating, is again reflected on the first reflective coating and is imaged in the vicinity of the vertex of the convex surface.

30. (New) The optical system of claim 1 wherein a marginal ray of the luminous flux reflected on the central part of the first surface is totally reflected at the central portion of the second aspherical surface due to total internal reflection.

31. (New) The optical system of claim 9 wherein a marginal ray of the luminous flux reflected on the central part of the first surface is totally reflected at the central portion of the second aspherical surface due to total internal reflection.

32. (New) The optical system of claim 13 wherein a marginal ray of the luminous flux reflected at the first reflective coating of the first convex surface is totally reflected at the light transmissive region of the second aspherical convex surface due to a total internal reflection.

33. (New) The optical system of claim 25 wherein a marginal ray of the luminous flux reflected at the first reflective coating of the first concave surface is totally reflected at the light transmissive region of the second convex surface due to total internal reflection.

34. (New) The optical system of claim 28 wherein a marginal ray of the luminous flux reflected on a central part of the first surface is totally reflected at the central portion of the second surface.

35. (New) The optical system of claim 29 wherein a marginal ray of the luminous flux reflected on the first reflective coating of the plane surface is totally reflected at the light transmissive region of the convex surface.